

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 018408

R 221548Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7855

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 782

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG FR NO

SUBJECT: ENERGY: NORWAY'S VIEWS ON WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET BEGUN TO
THINK ABOUT POST-CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS AND FOLLOW-UP. IT IS
PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE, RELIEVED THAT NO
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CONFRONTATION WITH THE LDC'S DEVELOPED, IMPRESSED BY THE SECRETARY'S

HANDLING OF THE MEETING, AND GRATIFIED THAT EXISTING INSTITUTIONS WILL BE USED AND NO PERMANENT CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION WILL BE ESTABLISHED. (NORWEGIAN PERCEPTIONS OF THE AFFECT OF THE CONFERENCE ON EC AND ATLANTIC RELATIONS WERE REPORTED IN OSLO 748). END SUMMARY.

1. I HAVE DISCUSSED THE OUTCOME OF THE WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE WITH MINISTER OF COMMERCE JENS EVENSEN AND WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE ARNESEN. DCM ALSO DISCUSSED CONFERENCE WITH UNDER SECRETARY LIE IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. THIS CABLE SUMS UP THEIR REACTIONS TO THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE ITSELF, (ON SOME POINTS DUPLICATING INFO REPORTED PREVIOUSLY.)

2. NORWAY IS VERY PLEASED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE AND BELIEVES THAT IT CREATED A BASIS FOR DEALING EXPEDIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH THE ENERGY PROBLEM. IT IS CONSIDERED IMPORTANT NOW TO MOVE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO A "GLOBAL" MEETING WITH PRODUCER COUNTRIES. THE COORDINATING GROUP SHOULD MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO PREPARE FOR THIS GLOBAL MEETING. THE GROUP SHOULD NOT, HOWEVER, BE ALLOWED TO DELAY CONVOCATION OF THE GLOBAL MEETING AND COULD CONTINUE WORK NOT ASSOCIATED WITH PREPARATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL MEETING LATER. ANOTHER CONFERENCE OF CONSUMER COUNTRIES IS UNNECESSARY AND UNDESIRABLE AND SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO DELAY THE GLOBAL MEETING.

3. LIE AMPLIFIED THE REMARKS OF EVENSEN AND ARNESEN ON TWO POINTS. ASKED WHETHER IT WAS EVER PROPOSED TO INCLUDE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN A "GLOBAL" CONFERENCE, HE SAID THAT THE SUBJECT HAD NEVER ARISEN IN NORWEGIAN INTERNAL DISCUSSION AND HE HAD NO INDICATION THAT THE SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES WERE INTERESTED. REGARDING THE POTENTIAL CONFLICT BETWEEN THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE ENERGY CONFERENCE AND NORWAY'S "GO SLOW" OIL EXPLOITATION POLICY, LIE SAID HE SAW NO CONFLICT GIVEN THE SMALL ROLE THAT NORWAY WILL PLAY IN TOTAL WORLD OUTPUT BETWEEN NOW AND 1980, AND HAD FELT NO PRESSURE IN WASHINGTON ON THIS QUESTION.

4. NONE OF THE NORWEGIANS SAW ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE U.N. PROPOSED BY ALGERIA AND A SEPARATE MEETING OF CONSUMER AND PRODUCER COUNTRIES TO DISCUSS ENERGY. THE U.N. MEETING WOULD DISCUSS RAW MATERIALS INCLUDING ENERGY, CONFIDENTIAL

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IN GENERAL TERMS; THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER MEETING WOULD SUGGEST SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO RESOLVE ENERGY PROBLEMS. THE U.N. WAS ALSO VIEWED AS TOO CUMBERSOME AND TIME CONSUMING TO TACKLE URGENT QUESTIONS OF OIL SUPPLIES AND PRICES WHICH NEEDED SWIFT, DECISIVE ACTION.

5. ALTHOUGH THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST HAS STRONGLY FAVORED INCLUSION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE ENERGY TALKS, THE

POST-CONFERENCE ATTITUDE IS THAT IT IS UNNECESSARY TO CONVENE ANOTHER CONSUMER CONFERENCE WHICH WOULD INCLUDE LDCS. EVENSEN SAID THIS WOULD DELAY MATTERS TOO MUCH, AND ARNESEN SAID THAT AID RATHER THAN OIL WOULD BE THE MAIN TOPIC LDCS WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO DISCUSS AT SUCH A MEETING. THERE WAS ALSO GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT MANY LDCS WOULD NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSUMER MEETING FOR FEAR OF GIVING THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY WERE GANGING UP WITH THE DEVELOPED WORLD AGAINST PRODUCERS. IN ADDITION IT WAS ARGUED THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD SPLIT THE LDCS INTO CONSUMER AND PRODUCER BLOCKS AND THAT MANY LDCS WOULD RESIST BEING SPLIT IN THIS WAY.

6. EVENSEN, WHO STILL SEES HIMSELF IN A BRIDGE-BUILDING ROLE, BELIEVES THAT LDC CONCERNS COULD BE FACTORED INTO PREPARATIONS FOR A GLOBAL MEETING THROUGH CONSULTATIONS WITH LDC REPRESENTATIVES AT THE UN AND IN CAPITALS. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD MET IN NEW YORK AFTER THE CONFERENCE WITH LEADERS OF THE AFRICAN AND ASIAN GROUPS WHO AGREED WITH THESE VIEWS; THEY WERE RELIEVED THAT A CONFRONTATION HAD BEEN AVOIDED, AND WISHED TO MOVE ON TO A GLOBAL MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY IN GENEVA OR BANGKOK BUT NOT IN WASHINGTON OR ANY EUROPEAN CAPITAL. (EVENSEN WILL ATTEND THE LOS MEETING IN NEW YORK BETWEEN FEBRUARY 25 AND MARCH 1-2 AND PROPOSES TO PURSUE THIS BRIDGEBUILDING. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM.)

7. THE NORWEGIANS WERE PLEASED THAT NO PERMANENT ORGANIZATION WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE CONFERENCE AND THAT EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS WILL BE USED TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE. ARNESEN WAS PARTICULARLY GRATIFIED THAT REFERENCE TO THE OECD WAS INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNIQUE AND SAID THAT THIS HAD BEEN AT FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND'S INSTANCE. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FLEXIBILITY AND HANDLING OF THE CONFERENCE WERE COMMENTED UPON FAVORABLY BY ALL THREE NORWEGIANS. ARNESEN ALSO COMPLIMENTED ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FOR HIS

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CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN DRAFTING THE COMMUNIQUE. BYRNE

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NNN

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